
Agency Information

AGENCY: HSCA
RECORD NUMBER: 180-10142-10129
RECORD SERIES: CIA SEGREGATED COLLECTION
AGENCY FILE NUMBER: 23-15-05

Document Information

ORIGINATOR: HSCA
FROM: CIA
TO:

TITLE:

DATE: 00/00/0000
PAGES: 7

SUBJECTS:

CIA, METHODOLOGY
ARRESTS, DURAN, SYLVIA

Released under the John
F. Kennedy
Assassination Records
Collection Act of 1992
(44 USC 2107 Note).
Case#:NW 53080 Date:
06-01-2017

DOCUMENT TYPE: NOTES
CLASSIFICATION: Unclassified
RESTRICTIONS: 1A; 1B
CURRENT STATUS: Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW: 01/01/2003

OPENING CRITERIA:

COMMENTS: Box 12

CIA Handling of Sylvia Duran Matter
President

When/John F. Kennedy was assassinated on November

22, 1963, the United States investigative agencies -- FBI,

CIA, Secret Service, etc.--were asked to investigate the

assassination. When the Central Intelligence Agency learned

that Lee Harvey Oswald had visited Mexico City ~~between~~ ^{Mexico City still} during

late September and early October, ~~they~~ ^{the CIA is not a} reviewed ~~their~~ ^{it's} ~~it's~~ ^{they.}

files and found in the electronic surveillance files and found

phone calls to the Soviet Embassy made September 27th,

September 28th, and October 1st, that could have been

made by Oswald. (See Electronic Surveillance Section.)

^{IT} They also found phone calls between the Russian Consul

and Sylvia Duran where Oswald appeared to ^(have) be ^{discussed}.

(See Soviet Electronic Surveillance Section.) In addition

^{IT} they found a phone call made by Sylvia Duran to the

Soviet Consulate on September 28, 1978, where Sylvia Duran

stated that there was an American citizen at the Cuban

Consulate who had previously visited the Soviet Consulate,

^{the allmost} and put a man on the line. (See Soviet Electronic Surveil-

lance Section.) A final phone call where Oswald identified

himself was also found. ^{on Oct 31} (See Soviet Electronic Surveillance

Section.)

*Redundant
in light
of
rest of
report*

ev. since 7/2

reference here?

*awkward!
ambiguous
what
this
is
referring
to
Let's talk about this.*

↑ give date.

*always use commas
after prepositional phrase.*

At this point, the Central Intelligence Agency determined that it would ^{not} ask the Mexican Government-- *U.N.* whom it had a good relationship ~~with~~--to arrest Sylvia Duran because she might shed some light on the circumstances surrounding the assassination. *As* Sylvia Duran was also a Mexican citizen, ^{and} did not have diplomatic immunity. The ~~Central Intelligence Agency's~~ ^{the} Mexico City Station sent a note to Luis Echevarria requesting that he arrest Sylvia ~~Sylvia~~ Tirado de Duran immediately. The agency stated that she was a Mexican citizen who had put Oswald in touch with the Soviet Embassy. The agency gave Echevarria a note with Duran's address, her mother's address, her brother's address, her license plate number, her home phone number and her place of work. The Mexico City Station also suggested that Duran be held incommunicado until she could be questioned on the matter. (Note to Luis Echevarria to arrest Sylvia Duran, November 23, 1963, CIA No. 444; Cable re oswald-Duran, Mexi 7029, November 23, 1963, CIA No. 441; Anne Goodpasture Chronology, Wx 7241, entry 36, November 23, 1963, CIA No. 635)

*possibly
redundant*

reference?

*I, all of
above
detail
necessary?*

The request to Luis Echevarria was not authorized by the Central Intelligence Agency's Headquarters. When they received the cable on November 23, 1963, Headquarters

*but
does
this
mean*

relevant

Because the Mexico City Station did not get approval from Headquarters to request the Mex govt to arrest Sylvia

*that it
was
unauthorized?*

~~Because~~ The MCS did not receive prior
authorization from CIA Headquarters to
request the arrest of ^{because of} Duran by
Mexican authorities. ~~The MCS~~ feared that
~~such a request~~ such a request
would jeopardize the ^{longtime} relationship
between ^{certain} the Mexican gov officials with the CIA,
Jack Whitten, D/W/H 50 called

*It's clear that
we need this
awareness
but not
clear that
MCS who did.*

discovery

The Central Intelligence Agency feared/that Amer-
icans were behind the arrest of Sylvia Duran. (It) would
endanger their ^{it} continuing covert surveillance operations.
For this reason, the Mexico City Station requested the

*Why?
Make
explicit.*

Mexicans to arrest Sylvia Duran on their initiative.
Similar logic dictated when Headquarters asked the Mexico
City Station to request the Mexican authorities to inter-
rogate Sylvia Duran to the extent necessary to clarify
the outstanding points raised in their cables the previous

*Confusing.
Also, this
is the
first that
you
are
mentioning
this.*

forty-eight hours. Headquarters stated that the Mexico
City Station could provide questions to the Mexican
interrogators but that they wished no Americans to come
in contact with Duran. (Cable CIA Headquarters to Mexico
City Station, November 27, 1963, DIR 85318, CIA No. 497;
chronology of Anne Goodpasture, November 27, 1963, entry
no. 121, CIA No. 653) When, on November 27, 1963, the

Mexico City Station sent a photostatic copy of Sylvia Du-
ran's ten page signed statement to Headquarters (Cable
Mexico City Station to Headquarters, November 27, 1963,
Mexi 7105, CIA No. 479; Chronology of Anne Goodpasture,
November 27, 1963, entry no. 127, CIA No. 656) the follow-

ing day Headquarters sent a clarification cable to the
Mexico City Station. ^{seeking} ~~Headquarters~~ wanted to insure that
neither Sylvia Duran nor the Cubans got the impression would

too stupid

have a basis for concluding

~~that the Americans~~ were behind her rearrest. The cable stated "We want the Mexican authorities to take the responsibility for the whole affair." (Cable from Headquarters to the Mexico City Station, November 28, 1963, DIR 85371, CIA No. 464; Chronology of Anne Goodpasture, November 28, 1963, WX7241, entry no. 141, CIA No. 658)

goes in a file

When the Central Intelligence began to deal with the Warren Commission, Headquarters cabled the Mexico City Station that their present plan in passing information to the Warren Commission was to eliminate mention of telephone taps in order to protect their continuing operations. Headquarters stated that they would rely on Sylvia Duran's statements and on the Consular files which the Soviets gave the State Department. Headquarters stressed that exact, detailed information from Tetamil-7 and Tetamil-9 (Penetration agents in the Cuban Embassy) on just what Sylvia Duran and other officials said about Oswald's visits and his dealings would be valuable and usable corroborative evidence. (CIA cable from Headquarters to Mexico City Station, December 21, 1963, DIR 90466, CIA No. 549; Chronology of Anne Goodpasture, December 21, 1963, Entry No. 268, CIA No. 682)

This is way ahead of your file. It is covered by Berk.

put in file

Prior to three Warren Commission staffers (Messers. Willins, Slawson and Coleman) visit to Mexico City in

April 1964 the Agency still felt that if an American con-
tacted Sylvia Duran, ⁱⁿ ~~their~~ covert continuing operations
~~would~~ ^{would} be endangered. Headquarters cabled the Mexico City

Station that one of the touchy ^{poor use of word - too slangish} subjects that the staffers
would discuss was whether they should talk to Sylvia Duran
in Mexico at the Consulate. (Cable Headquarters to Mexico
City Station, April 8, 1964, DIR 13026, CIA No. 698)

Headquarters further cabled that the Warren Commission staf-
fers knew that the Central Intelligence Agency had tap
assets and that they might have guessed from the coverage
that they had photo points and a source in the Cuban Em-
bassy, but that they did not know the details on the Agency's
arrangements with the Mexicans. Headquarters stressed
that the Chief of Station should lend them all the needed
assistance with the minimum possible disclosure of assets
and techniques. (Ibid.) - ^{Remind Berk to explain}

At this point the House Select Committee on Assassinations ^{in his section how all this stuff} has determined that the Central Intelligence Agency ^{was}
thought their continuing electronic surveillance operation ^{disclosed}
extremely sensitive and important. The Warren Commission ^{is by}
would have needed to disclose sensitive information to ^{Mann}
contradict Sylvia Duran's story. The Central Intelligence
Agency had input into what could go in the Warren Report.
(See Chuck Berk Write-up.)

Must narrow down the relevance of all this pursuing on Sylvia

see over
→

① Intro
- state issue generally
procedures generally
[outline of summary write-up]

② For each section
① statement of issue
② summary of facts
③ analysis of facts
④ conclusion.

Remember: each section of fact
summation & analysis must ^{immediately} be
abundantly clear ~~to~~ the
uninformed reader.